

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated February 22, 2008. Claims 1 to 12 and 15 to 18 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 15 to 18 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 3, 5 to 9, 11-13 and 15-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,194,696 (Mori). Claims 4 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mori in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,842,262 (Gillihan). Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mori in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,621,590 (Livingston). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 15, 16, 17, and 18.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a printing control method of converting original data into print data processible by a printing apparatus. This method comprises the steps of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen on which a basic attribute may be set for a plurality of pages corresponding to the back sides of the printing medium output in double-sided printing, wherein the basic attribute set by the first setting screen is set as the default back-side attribute of the second setting screen.

Accordingly, in a system implementing the method of Claim 1, a user may change those items for back sides of the printing medium when the user wishes them to be different from those set for the whole print data. For example, assume the attribute set by the UI shown by Fig. 4 is a basic setting. The basic setting contains a printing quality that is set to “standard” and a

color adjustment that is set to “auto”. When the user opens the second setting screen to set the back-side attribute, initial values of the printing quality and the color adjustment are set to “standard” and “auto” because the whole attribute is set as initial values in the second setting screen. Accordingly, the user may change only those values that need be changed on the second setting screen corresponding to the back sides of the printing medium output. Other values corresponding to the whole print data remain unchanged.

In contrast, Mori ‘696 discloses an information processing apparatus in which a book attribute is applied to an entire document, a chapter attribute is applied to an individual chapter, and a page attribute is applied to an individual page. The page attribute disclosed in Mori, as shown on the UI’s in Figs. 17 and 18 of Mori, is merely applied to each specific page, and not to a plurality of pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in double-sided printing.

In addition, Mori discloses that common initial values are used as the initial values of the “book” and “chapter” attributes. However, if a “book” attribute is changed on the UI shown in Fig. 14 of Mori, this attribute is not automatically changed on the “chapter” UI screen shown in Fig. 15 of Mori. Instead there is a box on the “chapter” UI which a user may check so that the “chapter” attribute is the same as the “book” attribute. This limits functionality when compared to the present invention, in which the attribute may be set individually and the whole print attribute changed on the first setting screen is reflected within the second setting screen. This limit of functionality applies to the “page” attribute UI disclosed in Mori as well, where neither a “book” attribute nor a “chapter” attribute is reflected on the “page” UI.

Gillihan ‘262 also fails to disclose the feature of the present invention, namely that of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a

second setting screen on which the basic attribute is reflected to set a back-side attribute applied to a plurality of pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in double-sided printing, wherein the basic attribute set by the first setting screen is set as the default back-side attribute of the second setting screen. Specifically, display of the second setting screen on which the basic attribute is reflected is not disclosed in Gillihan.

Livingston '590 also fails to disclose the step of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen on which the basic attribute is reflected to set a back-side attribute applied to a plurality of pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in double-sided printing, wherein the basic attribute set by the first setting screen is set as the default back-side attribute of the second setting screen.

Therefore, these cited references all fail to disclose the step of displaying a first setting screen to set a basic attribute applied to whole print data and a second setting screen on which the basic attribute is reflected to set a back-side attribute applied to a plurality of pages corresponding to the back side of the printing medium output in double-sided printing, wherein the basic attribute set by the first setting screen is set as the default back-side attribute of the second setting screen. In light of these deficiencies of Mori, Gillihan and Livingston, Applicant submits that amended independent Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 15 is directed to a printing control apparatus which converts original data into print data, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 15 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 16 is directed to a printing control apparatus which converts input drawing data into print data, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 16 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 17 is directed to a computer-readable medium storing a computer program for recording a program for converting original data into print data, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 17 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

Amended independent Claim 18 is directed to a computer-readable medium storing a computer program for converting input drawing data into print data, substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 18 is also now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Frank Cire #42,419/
Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicant

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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